Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 EA-10 EUR-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 SS-15 PA-01 SP-02 SIL-01 LAB-04 IO-13 AID-05 /119 W

-----106309 161800Z /44

R 161140Z AUG 78 FM AMEMBASSY RABAT TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6448 INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS USINT HAVANA AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

CONFIDENTIAL RABAT 4989

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL, PINT, XX, CU, MO

SUBJ: MOROCCAN SCORESHEET ON THE HAVANA YOUTH FESTIVAL

REF: A. RABAT 4567, B. RABAT 4684

1. MOROCCAN DELEGATION TO THE HAVANA WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL RETURNED EXTEREMLY FRUSTRATED BY "INTANSIGENCE" OF THE FESITVAL DIRECTORS. NON-COMMUNIST MOROCCAN DELEGATES CRITICIZED THE "UNDERMOCRATIC PRACTICES" THEY OBSERVED. DURING FIVE DAYS OF DISCUSSIONS BEFORE THE FESTIVAL, MOROCCCAN DELEGATION TRIED TO SECURE AN ACTIVE PLACE IN THE VARIOUS MEETINGS RELATING TO THE WESTERN SAHARA AND TO PERSUADE FESTIVAL DIRECTORS TO MODIFY THEIR STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE POLISARIO. WHEN THESE EFFORTS FAILED, THE THREE MOROCCAN NON-COMMUNIST GROUPS ANNOUNCED A BOYCOTT OF THE FESTIVAL ON JULY 28. THE MOROCCAN PPS (COMMUNIST) DELEGATION, REPORTEDLY UNDER PRESSURE FROM SOVIET FRIENDS. DECLINED TO JOIN FORMALLY IN THE BOYCOTT. HOWEVER, THE PPS QUITELY WITHDREW TWO DAYS LATER AND ACCOMPANIED THE REST OF THE DELEGATION ON ITS RETURN TO MOROCCO. CONFIDENTIAL

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2. COMMENT: MOROCCAN WITHDRAWAL FROM HAVANA COMPLEMENTED THE GOM'S STRONG PUBLIC CRITICISM OF CUBA DURING
THE BELGRADE NAM SUMMIT AND THE INCIDENT HAS NO DOUBT HARMED
CUBA'S IMAGE AMONG MOROCCAN YOUTH ACTIVISTS. DELEGATION
LEADERS RETURNED GENUINELY DISTRUBED NOT ONLY BY TREATMENT OF
THEIR CAUSE BUT BY THE "UNREPRESENTATIVENESS" OF MANY

DELEGATIONS AND MANIPULATION OF THE FESTIVAL BY ITS ORGRS. IN THE FUTURE, MOROCCO'S YOUTH LEADERS WILL PROBABLY VIEW SUCH "PROGRESSIVE" GATHERINGS WITH GREATER WARINESS.

3. DETAILS TO FOLLOW BY AIRGRAM. MOFFAT

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Subject: MOROCCAN SCORESHEET ON THE HAVANA YOUTH FESTIVAL

TAGS: SCUL, PINT, XX, CU, MO

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